

NO PATENTS IN HIS

James J. Hill Abhors Indirect Methods.

WILL NEVER FIGHT THE STATE

But if the Washington Legislature Chooses to Make It Unpleasant for Railroads, They May Adopt the Policy of Doing Nothing.

SEATTLE, Dec. 21.—(Special).—For the first time since, as president of the Northern Securities Company, James J. Hill assumed charge of the destinies of the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Burlington railways, he talked politics yesterday afternoon to the Oregonian representative. Mr. Hill stood on the rear platform of his private car, attached to the presidential train, in Railroad avenue, surveying the congested thoroughfare now used practically as an switching yard by the various roads entering this city. He had just left a conference in Judge Burke's office with J. D. Farrell, president of the Pacific Coast Company, and the railroad manager's face bore every evidence that his short stay had not been particularly pleasant or productive of results.

In effect, President Hill said that, while his own road, the Great Northern, would take no hand in Washington's state politics, nevertheless he was fully informed as to the campaign now being conducted in this state by Governor McBride for a railroad commission. Mr. Hill said that he did not desire to take any part in the controversy, but then added this significant statement: "We have always fought to build up the State of Washington, and we will never fight the State of Washington, or do anything to hinder its development, should this fight on us continue. In fact, we shall do nothing whatever, save to handle such business as comes to us. If the people of Washington want this sort of policy, all well and good."

Mr. Hill is getting old. His iron-gray hair is fast whitening, and his eyes are beginning to dim. He is, however, still in the vigor of his youth, and during his visit here he seemed to lean more than ever before on his son, Louis Hill, first vice-president of the Great Northern, and who is slated to assume the presidential chair on Mr. Hill's retirement. Mr. Hill has not made a visit to the coast for some years past, except in company with his son Louis, the eldest of the children. His youngest son, John, has been the president of the Great Northern since the death of his father, and Mr. Hill has been in the private car while the father expressed himself vigorously on the railroad fight.

"I have always been ready and willing, any more than willing, to meet the people of the State of Washington fairly and candidly when in any way of interest to the people and to the railroads. I am always willing and ready to do this—to receive from the people, the farmers in Eastern Washington, the miners, millmen and merchants of Western Washington, any suggestions or complaints that they may wish to make. But I absolutely refuse to be drawn into the arena of politics. I know nothing of the politics of this state, and I shall not take any pains to inform myself. If the Governor of Washington, as I have been lately informed, seeks to make a political issue out of the railroads, that is one thing. But it is entirely a different matter with us. We will not be drawn into a controversy. You can lead a horse to water, as the old saying goes, but you cannot make him drink."

"The people of the State of Washington are prosperous. The farmers are getting good prices for their products, and the millmen are getting good prices for their lumber. It is very much to be doubted if the people of this state were ever so prosperous as they are today. Now, the railroads in Washington are prospering largely to the prosperity. We want it to continue. The farmers cannot make too much money to suit us. The millmen can find no more profitable a market to please the railroads. The growth in population and wealth too rapidly to suit the railroads."

Just now, at a time when this prosperity which the people of Washington are enjoying, and the influence which has been seen and felt in every line of business; at this time, when the state and its cities are on Puget Sound are confronted by enormous problems of future commercial development, it seems to me a little queer that a faction of a political party in this state, led by the Governor, should make the railroads a political issue; should attack the railroads in public and in private. The Governor may have his railroad commission, but we will not be forced to accept it blindly. There are courts to prevent the taking away unjustly of a man's property.

"But I am not going to be drawn into any political controversy, and I do not propose to meddle in the politics of this state. I have heard more about Washington politics on this trip to Seattle than I ever knew before, and I shall forget all I have heard as quickly as possible. You can say for me, however, that as far as we are concerned, what is done for the development of Washington hereafter will largely depend on circumstances. If we are to be opposed and harassed, intimidated, I might say, for political effect, then other agencies must be looked to to build up the state. We will not fight Washington, nor do anything to hinder its development and growth. We will simply do nothing."

"The railroads should not be drawn into a political contest. They have no business in politics. The people of Washington have any grievances, at present, let them come direct to the railroads. I have always been ready to listen to all complaints, and to do my best to adjust them in justice. It was in the case of Mr. Mellan, Mr. Mohler and myself met the farmers of Eastern Washington last summer, when the cut of 10 per cent was made in wheat rates. In this way only, and not through the activities of a group of politicians, can the questions between the shippers and the railroads be met and adjudicated."

LARGE VESSEL BURNING.

Apparently a Tank Steamer Laden With Oil.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., Dec. 21.—It is believed that a large vessel, either a tank steamer with oil or a sailing craft loaded with highly inflammable matter, was burned tonight in Massachusetts Bay, about 20 miles out of Boston Bay. A life-saving crew from West Gloucester made a strong effort to reach her, but a stiff breeze drove them back when they were still 10 miles away from the burning ship. About 10:30 o'clock tonight two Boston fishermen came into port and reported that they passed within two miles of the burning vessel, but did not attempt to ascertain her identity. The crew of one of them, which passed by the burning vessel, reported smelling burning oil and stated that the vessel was a very large one. They were unable to say, however, whether it was a sailing vessel or a tank steamer, but they thought the former. These fishermen passed the burning vessel about 8:30, but at 10:30 o'clock she could still be seen from shore, burning fiercely.

The vessel was first noticed about 4 o'clock this afternoon by Keeper Bailey, of the Eastern Point Light, at the entrance of this harbor. At that time the vessel apparently was enveloped in thick smoke, and Bailey had been watching her

FAMINE FOR FINLAND

LOSS OF CROPS PUTS PEOPLE IN A BAD WAY.

Slender Resources Are Nearly Exhausted and Government Aid Is Not Promising—People Leaving.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.—The average grain crop gathered in Finland is valued at \$20,000,000. The estimated value of the 1902 crop is \$20,000,000. While this loss is generally distributed throughout Finland, it is almost total in the northern third of the country, where are the Provinces of Uleaborg, Kuopio, Vasa, St. Michael and portions of Viborg. Peas and beans generally have failed, and the potato crop has not been gathered; the hay has rotted or been swept away by floods.

The disaster is due to the late spring, the nearly continuous chilly rains and the early frost, which was recorded August 10. In the north there have been only half a dozen days when it did not rain. The rains also spoiled the fishing. So complete was the failure of vegetation that dead birds by the hundreds have been found in the forests. The present crop failure is the worst that has been experienced for the last 50 years. It is hoped, however, that better methods of communication will facilitate the work of relief and avoid wholesale deaths by hunger and typhus.

There are all told about 600 parishes in Finland; 194 of these parishes are now nearly destitute. The Agricultural Board has received reports from 148 parishes, reporting that they have good supplies which will suffice until Christmas day. The surplus and barley which the people are forced to use make a bitter bread which even the hungry refuse to eat. In some parts of the country bread is made of barley husks and straw mixed with a little flour, and is purchased by the needy people with their hoarded savings. Such bread contains very little nutriment, and is extremely unwholesome. The peasants have expended all their money for flour, and consequently are unable to buy clothing.

The danger of famine was realized early by the public. Count Borjork, Governor General of Finland, has issued an appeal for help in Russia, and a voluntary relief committee has been organized by the country. The Anglo-American church here is affiliated with this committee. The Senate has decided to construct public works at an expenditure of \$75,000, and it has allotted \$20,000 for the purchase of grain, which will be sold to the people at cost. Seventy-five thousand dollars will be used to encourage cottage industries. The provinces and cities of Finland have voted various sums for relief work, amounting in all to \$600,000. The voluntary relief committee has received \$125,000, but it is understood that all this \$125,000 has already been expended.

Pastor Kilbourn, of St. Petersburg, has just returned from a sledge journey through Kuopio Province. He found 1500 school children who were in need of food. Of this number, 115 were totally destitute. It is estimated that 400,000 will be without food after Christmas. Business in Finland is suffering in sympathy with the extreme conditions, but no failures have yet been recorded. The banks have not raised the rate of discount.

Emigration from Finland is increasing constantly. Up to November 17, 20,155 persons had left the country this year from Vilhanda, while unknown numbers of Finlanders have crossed the Gulf of Bothnia to Sweden and have taken passage from there. The effect of the crop failure in emigration, however, will be felt more strongly in 1903.

Plan to Feed the People.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.—The Russian government has drawn up a comprehensive plan for feeding the people who are in a state of semi-starvation as a result of crop failures and generally leaving the distress which is widespread throughout 10 governments of European Russia and some districts of Siberia. Some \$3,321,500 has already been expended in relief work, but further great sums will be necessary to support the populace of the afflicted districts and enable them to resume farming in the spring.

AUSTRIA'S EMIGRATION.

Bill to Restrict and Regulate It Is Prepared.

VIENNA, Dec. 21.—Early in January, the government proposes to introduce in the Reichsrath an important bill to restrict and regulate immigration. One of the main objects of this measure will be the

transference of all Austrian emigrants in Austrian vessels from Trieste instead of permitting them to travel by German and other foreign steamship lines.

The Fremdenblatt, a semi-official organ, warmly supports the government bill in the interest of shipping. This paper estimates that in the last five years Austro-Hungarian emigrants have taken from the country \$2,000,000, the bulk of which has been paid to foreign railroads and steamship lines. It urges the importance of emigrants retaining a sense of their Austrian citizenship as long as possible, and thinks the proposed bill will set to this by compelling the government to protect the emigrants beyond the first stages of their journey.

This new measure will largely follow the lines of the Hungarian bill under preliminary consideration. The supporters of this bill demand that emigrants not only embark at Fiume, but insist that they be carried on Hungarian ships manned by Hungarian crews and furnished with Hungarian supplies.

Chinese Rebel Collects an Army.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 21.—The North China Daily News has received the serious news from Shen Si that Tung Fu Siang, the self-styled Chinese commander, whose execution was demanded by the powers, but who is supposed to be protected by the Dowager Empress, has collected a force of 10,000 well-equipped troops, among whom are included the provincial garrison of 4000 men who were debanded by imperial command. The purpose of Tung Fu Siang is the Governor-General, Governor Lu, the provinces of Shen Si and Kan Su and the seizure of Sian Fu. Friendly officials are advising foreigners and missionaries to depart in order to avoid the impending trouble.

Tung Fu Siang is buying great quantities of grain and fodder. He is in constant communication with Prince Tuan, Yang, the Chinese minister in London, and is believed to be secretly encouraging him and supplying him with money.

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General Frederick D. Grant and the other members of the family occupied seats overlooking the crypt. The services, conducted by Bishop E. G. Andrews, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. Alexander Mackay, Smith Protestant Episcopal Bishop Coadjutor, of Pennsylvania, opened with the hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light," after which the burial service was conducted by the Protestant Episcopal church, and the reading of the poem, "The Land Beyond the Sea," which had been a favorite of Mrs. Grant, and the singing of the hymn "Abide With Me."

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ANDREW WHITE DEAD

PORTLAND MAN WHO KILLED PETER BEAUCHENE.

Andrew White, who was serving a 10-year sentence on a charge of killing Peter Beauchene, last August, died at 2 o'clock yesterday morning in the Salem Penitentiary from an attack of typhus fever, after an illness of two weeks. His body will be brought to this city for burial. He lived in Orose Hootes. It was on the night of August 22 that Beauchene, who was a horseboer and lived at 306 Seventeenth street, went on a drinking bout with several young men, White being among them, in a saloon on Jefferson street, near his home, and the party afterward adjourned to an adjoining lot, where they drank beer from a bucket. A drunken quarrel arose, and it is charged White seized a thick piece of wood and struck Beauchene over the head with it. Beauchene was found dying shortly afterward by people who were passing along Jefferson street, and he died before the arrival of the police patrol wagon. The medical autopsy showed that he died from the result of a fractured skull. Several arrests were made, but the police could not find White, who had gone to Vancouver, Wash. But after two or three days had elapsed he was located and brought to this city for trial. He was convicted of manslaughter.

ger in the way the canal matter is being handled. The fact is, Morgan has always fought conscientiously for the Nicaragua route, and he believes the Panama proposition was simply to prevent the construction of any canal. Senator Mitchell has long entertained similar views, and it is possible that before the session ends he will give expression to them in a speech in the Senate. As a Republican Senator, he does not care to embarrass the Republican Administration, as it is believed it is proceeding in good faith toward carrying out the act of the last session of Congress. But he believes the Nicaragua route is preferable, and if there is an opportunity to favor that route, he will work for it, believing that it means a canal connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific.

The Venezuelan Matter.

Representative Hill, chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs, says there is no disposition by either party in Congress to make political capital out of the Venezuelan situation. He thinks that the Monroe Doctrine has been strengthened by the incident, because it has been shown that the United States will not permit European powers engaged in debt-collecting expeditions to acquire control over any territory. He thinks the incident has also been fruitful in showing to South American republics that they cannot intrench themselves behind the Monroe Doctrine and refuse just claims which other countries have against them.

Hill's views are endorsed by many Democrats, who have discussed the situation, and scarcely a man in public life desires to make out of the incident unfriendly relations between the European powers and the United States.

PROTESTS AGAINST NORD

But He Is Proclaimed President—People Are Satisfied.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Hayti, Dec. 21.—There was a disorderly scene at today's sitting of the Congress, as a result of violent speeches by Senator Cavin and Deputy Jeanne, who protested against the proclamation by the army of General Nord as President of the republic. One hundred and fifteen votes were cast; of these, General Nord received 100 and was elected, while 15 of the ballots were blank.

The people of the country desire peace, and they have received the announcement of the result of the voting with satisfaction. Port-au-Prince is quiet.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

If Baby Is Cutting Teeth.

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Dr. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, retards the gums, always all pain, cures wind colic and diarrhoea.

Going to St. Louis?

If so, better learn about the new service inaugurated by the O. R. & N. via Denver and Kansas City. Inquire city ticket office, Third and Washington.

Distress after eating, indigestion, sick headache, heartburn, etc., are cured by Hood's Sassafras.

See Our \$3.75 Leather Suit Case.

Woolen Suit Co., Morrison, 2222 1/2.

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Goods Delivered to Any Part of the City.

Large Assortment of Christmas Tree Ornaments.

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